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Ser. No. 09/453,319

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JAN 29 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TO 2800 MAIL RUDH

In re Application of:

Steven M. SHEPARD

Appln. No.: 09/453,319

Filed: December 2, 1999

Group Art Unit: 2859

Examiner: G. Verbitsky

)

December 2, 1999

For: METHOD & APPARATUS FOR DETECTION OF KISSING UNBOND

DEFECTS

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

Responsive to the non-final Office Action dated September 14, 2001 (Paper No. 12), please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1-28 are currently pending. The Office Action rejected claims 1-6, 15, 16 and 18-28 and objected to claims 7-14 and 17. No new matter has been added.

§ 103 rejections

Claims 1, 3 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,111,048 to Devitt ("Devitt") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,286,206 to Li ("Li") and U.S. Patent No. 6,000,844 to